

SWI - Skin and Wound Infections

SWI-C COMPLICATIONS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the complications associated with skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Review with the patient/family the symptoms of a generalized infection, e.g., high fever spreading redness, red streaking, increased tenderness, changes in mental status, decreased urine output.
2. Review with the patient/family the effects of uncontrolled skin or wound infections (e.g., cellulitis) or generalized infection (e.g., loss of limb, need for fasciotomy and skin grafting, multi-organ failure, death).
3. Inform patient/family that scarring and/or tissue discoloration may develop after healing of the wound.
4. Emphasis the importance of early treatment to prevent complications.

SWI-DP DISEASE PROCESS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand cause and risk factors associated with skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Review the current information regarding the causes and risk factors of skin and wound infections. Review, as appropriate, peripheral vascular disease and/or ischemic ulcers as appropriate. **Refer to PVD.**
2. Explain how breaks in the skin can allow bacteria to enter the body. Even minor wounds should be kept clean and treated early to prevent serious skin or wound infections.
3. Discuss importance of daily hygiene and skin inspection.
4. Explain, as appropriate, that elevated blood sugar or the use of immunosuppressive/corticosteroid medication may increase the risk of serious skin and wound infections and impedes healing.

SWI-EQ EQUIPMENT

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand and demonstrate (when appropriate) the proper use and care of equipment.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss the following as appropriate regarding the prescribed equipment:
 - a. Indication for the equipment
 - b. Benefits of using the equipment
 - c. Types and features of the equipment
 - d. Proper function of the equipment
 - e. Signs of equipment malfunction and proper action in case of malfunction
 - f. Infection control principles, including proper disposal of associated medical supplies
2. Demonstrate and participate in the return demonstration of the safe and proper use, care, and cleaning of the equipment, as appropriate.
3. For inpatients, explain that the various alarms are to alert the medical personnel of the patient's status and/or the function of the equipment.
4. Emphasize the importance of not tampering with any medical device.

SWI-FU FOLLOW-UP

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the importance of follow-up in the treatment of skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss the importance of follow-up care.
2. Discuss the procedure for obtaining follow-up appointments and that follow-up appointments should be kept.
3. Emphasize that full participation in the treatment plan is the responsibility of the patient/family.
4. Discuss signs/symptoms that should prompt immediate follow-up, e.g., redness, purulent discharge, fever, increased swelling or pain.
5. Discuss the availability of community resources and support services and refer as appropriate.

SWI-L LITERATURE

OUTCOME: The patient/family will receive literature about skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Provide patient/family with literature on skin and wound infections.
2. Discuss the content of the literature.

SWI-M MEDICATIONS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the purpose, proper use, and expected outcomes of prescribed drug therapy.

STANDARDS:

1. Describe the name, strength, purpose, dosing directions, and storage of the medication.
2. Discuss the risks, benefits, and common or important side effects of the medication and follow up as appropriate.
3. Discuss any significant drug/drug, drug/food, and alcohol interactions, as appropriate.
4. Discuss the importance of keeping a list of all current prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, herbs, traditional remedies, and supplements. Encourage the patient to bring this list and pill bottles to appointments for medication reconciliation.

SWI-MNT MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the specific nutritional intervention(s) needed for treatment or management of this condition, illness, or injury.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain that Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) is a systematic nutrition care process provided by a Registered Dietitian (RD) that consists of the following:
 - a. Assessment of the nutrition related condition.
 - b. Identification of the patient's nutritional problem.
 - c. Identification of a specific nutrition intervention therapy plan.
 - d. Evaluation of the patient's nutritional care outcomes.
 - e. Reassessment as needed.
2. Review the basic nutrition recommendations for the treatment plan.
3. Discuss the benefits of nutrition and exercise to health and well-being.
4. Assist the patient/family in developing an appropriate nutrition care plan.

SWI-N NUTRITION

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the role of adequate nutrition for the healing of skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain the importance of adequate nutrition and hydration in the repair of tissue.

2. Explain that protein foods, such as meat, fish, nuts, dairy, and soy are important in repairing tissues.
3. Explain that zinc, vitamins A and C, and thiamine are necessary for the healing process.
4. Explain that if oral intake is poor, small, frequent meals and a multi-vitamin help meet nutritional needs.
5. Refer to a registered dietitian as appropriate.

SWI-P PREVENTION

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the appropriate measures to prevent skin and wound infections.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss avoidance of skin damage by wearing appropriate protective equipment (e.g., proper footwear, long sleeves, long pants, gloves), as appropriate.
2. Explain importance of good general hygiene and cleaning any breaks in the skin and observing for infections. **Refer to HPDP-HY.**
3. Review importance of maintaining good general health and controlling chronic medical conditions, especially glycemic control in diabetes. **Refer to DM-FTC.**

SWI-PM PAIN MANAGEMENT

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the plan for pain management.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain that pain management is specific to the disease process of this particular diagnosis and patient and may be multifaceted. **Refer to PM.**
2. Explain that short term use of narcotics may be helpful in pain management as appropriate.
3. Explain that other medications may be helpful to control the symptoms of pain.
4. Explain that administration of fluids may be helpful with pain relief and resolution of symptoms.
5. Discuss non-pharmacologic measures that may be helpful with pain control.

SWI-TE TESTS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the test(s) to be performed, the potential risks, the expected benefits, and the risks of non-testing.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain test(s) that have been ordered (explain as appropriate):

- a. method of testing
 - b. necessity, benefits, and risks of test(s) to be performed
 - c. any potential risk of refusal of recommended test(s)
 - d. any advance preparation and instructions required for the test(s)
 - e. how the results will be used for future medical decision-making
 - f. how to obtain the results of the test
2. Explain test results:
 - a. meaning of the test results
 - b. follow-up tests may be ordered based on the results
 - c. how results will impact or effect the treatment plan
 - d. recommendations based on the test results

SWI-WC WOUND CARE

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the necessity and procedure for proper wound care and infection control measures. As appropriate they will demonstrate the necessary wound care techniques.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain the reasons to care appropriately for the wound, e.g., decreased infection rate, improved healing.
2. Explain the correct procedure for caring for this patient's wound.
3. Detail the supplies necessary for care of this wound (if any) and how/where they might be obtained.
4. Emphasize the proper methods for disposal of used supplies.
5. Emphasize the importance of follow-up.
6. Discuss any special recommendations or instructions particular to the patient's wound.